GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:342
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2003
TRAI
AVSM, BRIG.(RETD.) KAMAKHYA PRASAD SINGH DEO

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which TRAI is functioning independently;

(b) whether it is providing genuine level of playing field to all the industry players; and

(c) if so, the manner in which TRAI compares with the regulators in developed countries?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI S MAHAJAN)

(a) to (c): The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has been empowered, under the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act 1997, to carry out functions as considered appropriate in the Indian conditions. The TRAI Act was amended in the year 2000 to strengthen the entire regulatory framework. TRAI is functioning independently in the discharge of the functions entrusted to it under the TRAI Act. TRAI has informed that it has formulated its regulations, and issued its directions and orders on the principles of non-discrimination and to provide a level playing field; furthermore, all issues of key importance are decided through an open consultation process involving all stakeholders.